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FROM: BONN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2538, FEBRUARY 14, 7 PM

SENT DEPARTMENT 2538, REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 287, PARIS, BERLIN 540.

"FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE" FEBRUARY 14 CARRIED FOLLOWING ITEM DATE LINED LONDON:

BEGIN QUOTE.

QUESTION IS BEING DISCUSSED PUBLICLY AT PRESENT WHETHER OR NOT THE THREE PROMINENT NATIONAL SOCIALISTS STILL DETAINED IN SPANDAU - RUDOLF HESS, ALBERT SPEER AND BALDUR VON SCHIRACH - SHOULD BE GARDONED (BEGNANDIGT). DISCUSSION WAS AROUSED BY APPEAL APPEARING IN "DAILY MAIL" AND "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" BY AUSTRIAN JOURNALIST WILLI FRISCHAUER WHO DEMANDED RELEASE AS "SOLEMN DEMONSTRATION AGAINST HATE, INHUMANITY AND REVENGE." FRISCHAUER'S PARENTS PERISHED IN CONCENTRATION CAMP.

THE JOURNALIST, WHO, DURING TRIP TO GERMANY, INTERVIEWED SCHIRACH'S SON, REPORTED THAT THE PRISONERS ARE STILL FORBIDDEN TO SPEAK WITH PRISON WARDERS. SPEER SAID TO HAVE RECENTLY SOUGHT PERMISSION TO HAVE HIS MEALS ALONE SINCE HE COULD NO LONGER STAND SITTING AT TABLE WITH SCHIRACH WITHOUT BEING ALLOWED TO SAY A WORD. REGARDING HESS, FRISCHAUER REPORTED THAT HIS MENTAL CONDITION HAD VERY MUCH DETERIORATED. PEOPLE THEREFORE INCLINED TO BELIEVE RUMORS HESS NOT BEING RELEASED BECAUSE "HE CUSTODIANS ARE ASHAMED TO LET WORLD KNOW WHAT KIND OF HUMAN WRECK THEY STILL DETAINING."

END QUOTE.

FRISCHAUER ARTICLE WAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE PLAY ON GERMAN RADIO ("ECHO DES

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("ECHO DES TAGES") LAST NIGHT, ALTHOUGH WITHOUT PARTICULAR COMMENTARY EXCEPT EXPANSION ON FACT THAT FRISCHAUER'S PARENTS WERE VICTIMS NAZI PERSECUTION AND THEREFORE NO SUSPICION HE NAZI SYMPATHIZER.

BRUCE

INK/20